

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

DETERMINATION OF NEPA ADEQUACY (DNA)

Project Title:

North Dakota Field Office Oil and Gas Leasing DNA for July 2013
DOI-BLM-MT-C030-2013-119-DNA

Location: North Dakota Field Office

Applicant/Address: U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
North Dakota Field Office
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Project Contact:

Name: Shelly L. Gerhart
Title: Natural Resource Specialist
Office: North Dakota Field Office
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DETERMINATION OF NEPA ADEQUACY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

A. Proposed Action

Parcel No.: NDM 97300-T4
T. 154 N, R. 97 W, 5th PM, ND
Sec. 23: Accretions to Lot 2 less 18.87AC in Lot 5 (150.83AC);
Sec. 23: Accretions to Lot 3 (25.07AC);
Sec. 23: Lots 2, 3
Williams County
208.34 Acres

These lease parcels would be offered with North Dakota RMP (April 1988) lease stipulations and/or lease notices as necessary for competitive oil and gas lease sale and lease issuance.

The following lease stipulations (as required by 43 CFR 3131.3) shall be attached to these parcels to address site-specific concerns or new information not previously identified in the land use planning process:

CR 16-1 (All Lands)
LN 14-12 (All Lands)
NSO 11-39 (All Lands)
STANDARD 16-3 (All Lands)
TES 16-2 (All Lands)
COE 18-1 (All Lands)
COE 18-2 (All Lands)
COE 18-7 (All Lands)

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

This DNA is tiered to the decisions, information, and analysis contained in the North Dakota RMP (April 1988) and its associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), the governing land use plan for the North Dakota Field Office (NDFO). A more complete description of activities and impacts related to oil and gas leasing, development, production, etc. can be found on pages 9-10 in Chapter 2 of the RMP/EIS.

The parcels to be offered are within areas open to oil and gas leasing. Site-specific analysis was conducted during the fall and winter of 2010 by NDFO resource specialists who relied on professional knowledge of the area involved, review of existing databases and file information, and site visits to ensure that appropriate stipulations had been attached to specific parcels.

At the time of this review it is unknown whether this particular parcel will be sold and a lease issued. It is also unknown when, where, or if future well sites, roads, and facilities might be proposed. Assessment of projected activities and impacts was based on potential well densities discerned from the Reasonably Foreseeable Development (RFD) Scenario developed. Detailed site-specific analysis of activities associated with any particular parcel would occur when a lease holder submits an application for permit to drill (APD).

The proposed oil and gas leasing project would not be in conflict with any local, county, or state laws or plans.

C. Identify Applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Documents(s) and Other Related Documents That Cover the Proposed Action.

Environmental Assessment-DOI-BLM-MT-C030-2011-0079-EA, July 12, 2011

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?

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Yes

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No

The proposed action was analyzed as part of the NDFO July 2011 Oil & Gas Lease Sale EA (DOI-BLM-MT-C030-2011-0079-EA).

Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

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Yes

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No

The project area is ½ mile from the analysis area with sufficiently similar topography, resource areas, and resource concerns. Concerns, stipulations and mitigations remain unchanged from the original analysis.

Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA documents(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

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Yes

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No

Since the concerns, stipulations and mitigations remain unchanged from the original analysis, the "No Action" and "Proposed Action" alternatives in the NDFO July 2011 Oil & Gas Lease Sale EA (DOI-BLM-MT-C030-2011-0079-EA) are appropriate and complete.

Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, or updated lists of BLM sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?

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Yes

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No

The conditions as analyzed for this DNA are unchanged and the analysis and conclusions contained in the NDFO July 2011 Oil & Gas Lease Sale EA (DOI-BLM-MT-C030-2011-0079-EA) and FONSI remain appropriate and applicable.

Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

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Yes

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No

The direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the proposed action are unchanged from those identified in the NDFO July 2011 Oil & Gas Lease Sale EA (DOI-BLM-MT-C030-2011-0079-EA). The analysis is complete and adequately addresses site-specific impacts.

Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?

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Yes

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No

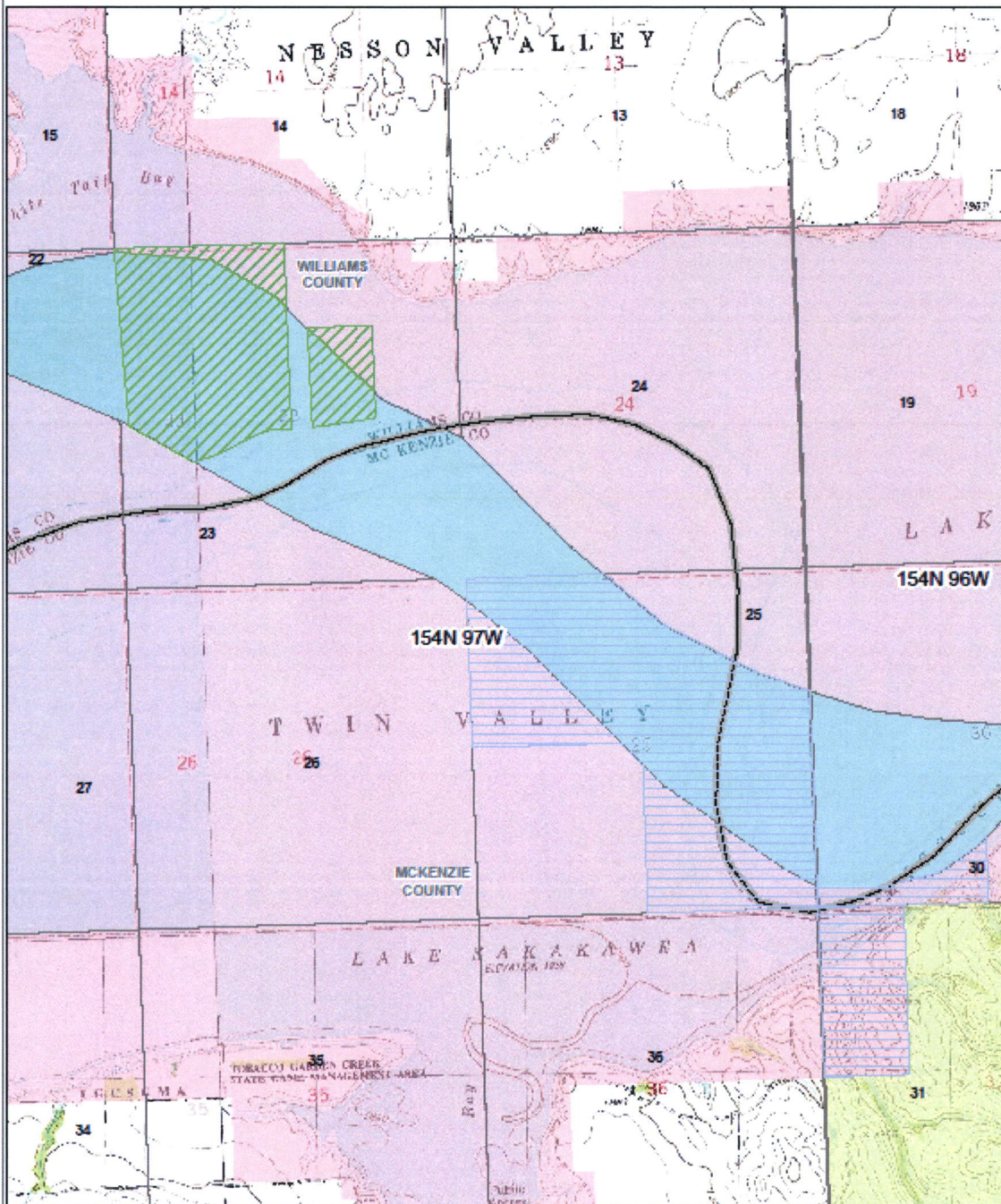
All of the documents identified in Section B of this document have had extensive public review. All Federal, State, local agencies and local Tribal Councils were involved in the scoping process. The BLM received a letter of concurrence from the Army Corp of Engineers on March 18, 2013.

E. Preparers

<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Resource Represented</i>	<i>Date & Initial</i>
Justin Peters	Cultural Resource Specialist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns and Paleontology	JWP 3/21/2013
Mark Glaser	Natural Resource Specialist	Soil, Water and Fluid Minerals	MAG 3/22/2013
Shelly Gerhart	Natural Resource Specialist	Vegetation, Visual Resources, Recreation and Travel Management, Invasive Species, and EA Lands	SLG 03/21/13
Linda Gisvold	Realty Specialist	Lands & Realty	LRG 03/21/13
Tim Zachmeier	Wildlife Biologist	Fish & Wildlife, Special Status Animal and Plant Species	TPZ 3/22/2013

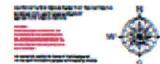


Nominated Parcel NDM97300-T4



- Parcel NDM 97300-T4
- 2011 Lease Sale Parcel
- Township
- Sections
- Quarters
- Counties
- Corp of Engineers
- Private
- USFS - National Grassland
- WATER

Horizontal Contour Interval: 200 Feet
Vertical Contour Interval: 100 Feet
Scale: 1:24,000
0 0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Miles



F. Conclusion

I considered this review and determined that the proposed action is in conformance with the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with NEPA requirements.

Shelly Gerkert

Signature of Project Lead/NEPA Coordinator

March 28, 2013

Date

Lauren Winkler

Signature of Responsible Official

Acting Field Manager.

3/28/13

Date

The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.